

FRAGMENTED POLYMERIC COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THEIR USE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Cross-linked hydrogels comprise a variety of
biologic and non-biologic polymers, such as proteins,
polysaccharides, and synthetic polymers. Such hydrogels
preferably have no free aqueous phase and may be applied to
target sites in a patient's body by extruding the hydrogel
10 through an orifice at the target site. Alternatively, the
hydrogels may be mechanically disrupted and used in
implantable articles, such as breast implants. When used *in*
vivo, the compositions are useful for controlled release drug
delivery, for inhibiting post-surgical spinal and other tissue
15 adhesions, for filling tissue divots, tissue tracts, body
cavities, surgical defects, and the like.